Re: Application of J. Burnes et al.

Date: September 2, 2005

Serial No. 10/677,771 Examiner: M. Safavi

Filed: 10/1/03 Art Group: 3673

For: Faceted end cap for leaching chamber Atty Docket No. 2312

Commissioner for Patents:

## **AMENDMENT**

Please amend the claims as shown in the enclosed status of claims.

Applicant encloses payment of \$200 small entity fee for two additional independent claims. Please charge any deficiency in the foregoing, or any other fee, to deposit account No. 14-0711 in the name of undersigned attorney with a reference number of 2312.

## REMARKS

This is in response to the office action of August 28, 2005.

Applicants have re-written the "objected-to" claims in independent form. (For simplicity, applicants have added the matter of objected-to claim 44 to claim 35, to produce the same effect as writing claim 44 in independent form.)

Applicants have changed the dependency of claims 36-39 from rejected claim 35 to rewritten claim 40. The dependent claims should be allowed at least because of novelty in the parent claim 40 and as preferred embodiments.

Allowance of the claims as amended herewith is requested.

To expedite prosecution here, applicants are not seeking to overcome the rejection of claim 35 as previously presented; the rejection being based on 35 USC 103 in reliance on Carswell in view of DeTuillo or Maestro. However, for the record: Applicant contests the validity of the rejection. Carswell element 32 is clearly said to be simple T-connector. It is not an endcap and no pipe-connection use is suggested. Rather, there is a teaching away, to running a pipe vertically from the chamber. Carswell does not show even one buttress having a surface portion for receiving a pipe. (A "Carswell edge" is not a surface, within the meaning of the applicant's specification.) So adding a feature from DeTuillo or Maestro will not produce the invention. It is using hindsight to add a feature from DeTuillo or Maestro, as no reason is cited to modify Carswell, and there is no

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Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0551-05.12
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

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This reflection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to presents) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete USPTO to presents) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete USPTO. Time will vary dupending upon the individual case. Any comments including gathering, Ivepanding and substituting the completed application from to the USPTO. Time will vary dupending upon the individual case. Any comments including gathering, Ivepanding and substitution of the Chief Information Officer. U.S. Palent in the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sunt to the Chief Information Officer. U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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motivation to be found in the art for such.

Respectfully submitted, JAMES BURNES ET AL.

heir Attorney

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313 on September 2, 2005

C. G. Nessler